

Software DVD Player User's Manual

Supplement to Intel® Express 3D Graphics Card User's Manual

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Introduction

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DVD is an exciting new technology that allows for the storage of up to 17 Gbytes of information on a disk the size of a standard CD. The consumer can now access media-rich content on a single DVD disk that would previously have required several CD-ROM's. The added storage capacity of the DVD gives software developers an opportunity to be more creative with interactive content since they have the capability to store much more data. In the case of movies, digital video and audio can now run on your PC with performance and quality approaching that of home theater systems. Due to the greater storage capacity of DVD disks, multiple languages, subtitles, menus, and viewing angles can be added to standard movies.

DVD Control Buttons

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The DVD control buttons for your DVD player are standard user operation functions found on consumer electronic DVD players today. Each button found on your DVD player is described below.

NOTE: Not every DVD title supports the button functions described below. For instance, some selections may not have multi-angle content so the viewing angle button will do nothing.

Load Menu Button



In File Mode, activating the *Load Menu Button* brings up the Open file dialog box enabling the user to select the file for playback. (See "MPEG Video Playback" section for optimum MPEG1 and MPEG2 file playback.)

Select Drive Button



The *Select Drive Button* allows the user to toggle between DVD Mode and File Mode playback. This function is permanently enabled.

Select Title Button



The *Select Title Button* brings up the pop-up menu for Title Menu, Root Menu and Chapter Menu selection. The unavailable menu options are grayed out. The *Select Title Button* is enabled only in DVD Mode and may be temporarily disabled based on the playback content.

Subtitle Button



Activating the *Subtitle Button* brings up the pop-up menu for different language subtitles, Subtitles Off option, and Subtitles Menu. If the content has a Subtitles Menu, selecting the Subtitles Menu option will display that menu in the playback window. Selecting any of the available language subtitles will enable display of the selected subtitles. Selecting Subtitles Off will disable the display of the currently selected subtitles. If the content has no subtitles available, the *Subtitles Button* will be disabled. The *Subtitle Button* is enabled only in DVD Mode and may be temporarily disabled based on the playback content.

Viewing Angle Button

Some DVD titles may have multiple camera angles recorded for the same scene. The *Viewing Angle Button* brings up the pop-up menu with all available selections for angles as well as the Angle Menu. Selecting the Angle Menu option will display the Angle Menu in the playback window. If no angles are recorded on the DVD title, the *Viewing Angle Button* will be disabled. The Viewing Angle function is available only in DVD Mode and may be disabled based on the content.

Parental Control Button

The playback of some DVD titles can be limited by the user. Usually the Parental Control level is indicated on the DVD title cover. Activating the *Parental Control Button* brings up a pop-up menu with available Parental Control levels and the option to change the current password. The currently selected level is indicated by a check mark. Upon installation of the DVD player on your PC, the Parental Control level for the player is set to its lowest level (G). The *Parental Control Button* is enabled only in DVD Mode and only while the player is stopped.

When attempting playback of a DVD title with a higher Parental Control level than the level currently selected for the DVD player, the following message is displayed:

"You do not have a high enough Parental Control Level to play this title".

To play the DVD title, the Parental Control level must be changed. When selecting a higher Parental Control level than the currently selected level, the application requires the user to enter a password. The DVD player will not allow for a change of the Parental Control level without password validation.

IMPORTANT NOTE: MAKE SURE TO KEEP A SAFE RECORD OF THE PASSWORD. IF YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN THE PASSWORD YOU WILL HAVE TO REINSTALL THE DVD PLAYER.

Audio Language Button

The *Audio Language Button* causes the Audio Language Menu to pop-up. The pop-up menu displays the available audio language tracks and allows the user to select the language of their choice. When available, an Audio Menu selection is added to the pop-up menu of available audio tracks. The Audio Language function is available only in DVD Mode and may be disabled based on the content.

Repeat Button

The *Repeat Button* is enabled only for File Mode playback. The *Repeat Button* causes the playback to be restarted upon completion of the entire file playback. Upon activating the Repeat feature, the button light will be activated indicating Repeat Mode is on.

Help Button

Activating the *Help Button* opens the application help window on the desktop. It is available in both DVD Mode and File Mode.

Icon Button



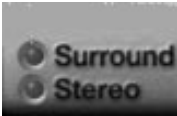
The *Icon Button* minimizes the DVD player to an icon and adds it to the toolbar at the bottom of the screen.

Close Button



This button closes the DVD player application.

Audio Buttons



The *Surround* button enables surround sound output (i.e. Dolby Pro-Logic output). In order to make full use of this feature, the sound system connected to the computer must support Dolby Pro-Logic decoding.

The “Stereo” button enables stereo sound output.

When activated a light will appear next to the selected audio output.

Fast Backward and Fast Forward Buttons



In DVD mode, activating the *Fast Backward Button* plays the DVD content in fast backward mode and activating the *Fast Forward Button* plays the DVD content in fast forward mode. The first activation of the button will cause the video to playback at twice (2x) the normal speed and no audio. The second activation will cause the video to playback at 8 times the normal speed and no audio. Accelerated playback will continue until stopped by the content or superseded by another function. The buttons are enabled for both DVD Mode and File Mode playback. In DVD Mode, the button may be disabled by the content.

Stop Button



Activating the *Stop Button* terminates the video/audio playback and returns to the DVD splash screen. The DVD player will remember which chapter was last played and will start the playback from that particular chapter if the *Play Button* is activated before a disc eject command. The Stop function is available for both DVD Mode and File Mode. In DVD Mode, the button may be disabled by the content.

Play Button



Activating the *Play Button* causes the DVD title or the currently selected file to be played back at normal speed. If the Play function is used after Stop, but the DVD disk has not been ejected, the Play function will start the playback from the chapter that was last played.

Pause Button



When in playback mode, the *Pause Button* will pause the playback. If the playback is already paused, activating the *Pause Button* resumes the playback. The Pause function is available for both DVD Mode and File Mode. In DVD Mode the button may be disabled by the content.

Eject Button



Activating the *Eject Button* ejects the DVD disc from the DVD drive. Loading the DVD title in the drive is done manually by the user. The Eject function is available for both DVD Mode and File Mode.

Previous and Next Buttons



Using the *Previous* and *Next Buttons*, the user can skip the video playback to the previous and next chapter respectively. These features are available only in DVD Mode and the button may be disabled by the content.

Volume Down and Up Buttons



The *Volume Down* and *Up Buttons* decrease/increase the volume level. Single clicking the button will decrease/increase the volume in one increment. Holding down the button will decrease/increase the volume level continuously until the button is released or the minimum/maximum volume level is reached. The *Volume Down* and *Up Buttons* are enabled in both DVD Mode and File Mode.

Mute Button



The *Mute Button* mutes audio playback. When audio is muted, a crossed red circle appears over the mute symbol. Another click of the mute button will unmute the audio playback.

A list of hot keys and their corresponding functions are listed below.

<u>Hot Key:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
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"F1"	Displays the help file.
"Enter"	Plays the selection.
"Up Arrow"	When at a DVD menu moves the menu selection up.
"Down Arrow"	When at a DVD menu moves the menu selection down.
"Right Arrow"	When at a DVD menu moves the menu selection right.
"Left Arrow"	When at a DVD menu moves the menu selection left.

“numeric keys“	When at a DVD menu selects the corresponding menu item. Press the enter key to activate the menu item.
“-“	Turns down the volume.
“+“	Turns up the volume.
“<“	Skips to previous chapter.
“>“	Skips to next chapter.
“F3“	Enable Surround Sound
“F4“	Enable Stereo Sound
“B“	Fast Backward.
“C“	Accesses Parental Control feature.
“D“	Changes between DVD and File Mode.
“E“	Ejects the disk.
“F“	Fast Forward.
“T“	Shrinks the application to an icon.
“M“	In DVD mode, activates the Root menu. In File Mode, does nothing.
“O“	In DVD mode, does nothing. In File Mode, opens an MPEG file.
“P“	Turns pause on and off.
“R“	Repeats the current MPEG file.
“S“	Stops playback.
“T“	In DVD mode, displays the DVD title menu. In File Mode, does nothing.
“U“	Changes the subtitles.
“V“	Changes the viewing angle.

Software DVD Playback

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To play a DVD disk, the player must be in DVD mode which is explained in the steps below. While in DVD mode, the player will play a standard DVD video disk from a DVD-ROM drive. DVD files typically have the extension “.vob”.

To play a DVD disk, follow the steps below:

1. Insert the DVD video disk in the DVD drive. Make sure the DVD video disk is inserted with the desired video format (see “Standard vs. Widescreen DVD Recordings” section below) facing up in the DVD drive. Most DVD video disks have a label around the center hub of the disk specifying “Standard” or “Widescreen” (16:9) format. Some newer DVD disks are dual layer and are labeled “Standard/Widescreen” on the same side of the disk. Allow a moment (typically less than 1 minute) for the DVD-ROM drive to read the DVD video disk. Make sure the busy light on the DVD-ROM drive has turned off.
2. To launch the DVD player, do the following:
 - a) From the “Start” menu select “Programs.”
 - b) From the “Programs” menu select “SoftDVD”. Left click on the “SoftDVD” program icon and the SoftDVD player will be launched.
3. Click on the **Play Button** to begin DVD playback. (Note: Move the cursor to the SoftDVD player buttons to see the hot titles for each button.)
4. To temporarily stop DVD movie playback use the **Pause Button** and use **Pause Button** to restart the movie. To terminate playback use the **Stop Button**.

Video CD Playback

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Video CD is a CD-size disc that offers playback of up to 74 minutes of moving images and digital sound. It can display high-resolution (MPEG I quality) still pictures and allows users to perform interactive operation from versatile menus. This format is ideal for Karaoke, music videos, and movies because it offers digital sound quality that is comparable to music CDs.

To play Video CDs files, follow the steps below:

1. Place the Video CD disk in your CD ROM drive or your 2X DVD-ROM drive.
2. From the "Start" menu, select "Program" → "Accessories" → "Multimedia" ("Entertainment" for Windows* 98) → "Media Player". Left click once on "Media Player".
3. From the "Media Player" dialog box, select "File" → "Open" → Left click on "Media" file menu.
4. Select drive in which the Video CD disk was installed and click on it.
5. Select "Mpegav" and double click on it.
6. Next select the file you want to play. (To start at the beginning of a Video CD, it will typically be the first file.) Click on "Open".
7. Press the "Play" button to start playback of the Video CD.
8. The appropriate buttons can be used to pause, stop or fast forward.
9. To terminate playback close the video playback window and close "Media Player".

MPEG Video Playback

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Some common video products such as Video CDs and Karaoke CDs are recorded in MPEG (Motion Picture Experts Group) format. MPEG1 and MPEG2 files can be played by following the procedure below. MPEG videos typically have the extensions ".mpg," ".mpeg," ".mp1," or ".mp2".

To play an MPEG file, follow the steps below:

1. Insert the disk with MPEG file into the drive.
2. From the "Start" menu, select "Program" → "Accessories" → "Multimedia" ("Entertainment" for Windows* 98) → "Media Player". Left click once on "Media Player".
3. From the "Media Player" dialog box, select "File" → "Open" → Left click on "Media" file menu.
4. Select the drive in which the disk with the MPEG file was installed and click on it.
5. Next select the file you want to play and click on "Open".
6. Press the "Play" button to start playback of the MPEG file.
7. The appropriate buttons can be used to pause, stop or fast forward.
8. To terminate playback close the video playback window and close "Media Player".

Standard vs. Widescreen DVD Recordings

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Most DVD movie titles are recorded in both "Standard" and "Widescreen" video formats. Typically one side of the DVD disk will be labeled "Standard" and the other side of the disk will be labeled

“Widescreen.” When inserting the DVD disk in the DVD drive, place the disk such that the desired format label (“Standard” or “Widescreen”) is facing up.

The standard format is recorded in a 4:3 aspect ratio (width x height) for playback on a PC monitor or standard TV screen. The widescreen format is recorded in a 16:9 aspect ratio for playback on a typical theater screen or widescreen TV. If you look at a PC monitor or standard TV, you will notice that the screen looks approximately square compared with a theater screen which is more rectangular. The standard video format is recorded specifically for PC monitor or TV playback.

Adjusting the Playback Screen Size

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To switch from the default playback screen size to full screen simply hit the “Maximize” button found on the upper right hand corner of the playback window. To return to the default playback screen size simply double-click the left mouse button anywhere in the playback window.

Troubleshooting

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Make sure Power Management is OFF

If you see periodic jerkiness in movie playback and/or periodic blanking on your monitor, be sure that all power management features in your system BIOS and operating system are disabled for hard drive and monitor. Refer to your specific hardware and software manufacturer help documents for instructions to turn BIOS and operating system power management features off.

Make sure Screen Saver is turned OFF

If you see periodic jerkiness in movie playback or your screen saver is activating at given intervals, be sure to disable your screen saver. Refer to your specific operating system manual / help files for instructions on how to turn this feature off.

Make sure the DVD drive is ready.

DVD drives may take up to a minute to go through their start-up once a disk is placed in the drive. If the message “DVD drive not ready” or “Drive empty” appears after hitting the **Play Button**, wait for the drive to finish start-up. If the busy light on the DVD drive is on, the drive is not ready.

Make sure you are in the right mode.

To play DVD content, the player must be in DVD mode. To play MPEG content, the player must be in File Mode. In DVD mode, the **Load Button** is inactive (grayed out). In File Mode, the **Load Button** is active (not grayed out). Use the **Select Button** to switch between DVD and File Modes.

Make sure the disk is inserted correctly.

If the message “DVD drive not ready” or “Drive empty” appears after hitting the **Play Button**, the disk may be inserted incorrectly in the drive. Single-sided disks need to be inserted with the writing facing up.

For double-sided disks, make sure to select the desired video format ("Standard" or "Widescreen") with the desired format label face up in the DVD drive.

Make sure disk is not damaged.

If the disk is scratched or dirty, playback may be erratic. A dirty disk can be cleaned, but a scratched disk may have to be replaced.